

Well my friends, I am up this month!

I am taking a cue from our new board member Paul Arellano and promised him that I would stay positive instead of grinding everyone about the importance of membership. It is easy to do this though when we just had a great regional meeting and four new member sign ups! A big thank you goes to **Hank Feldman and Ricky Oropeza of Performance Plus Tire & Automotive** for the great food and atmosphere at their great facility! Thanks go out also to **Continental, Pirelli, Hankook, and Cooper** for table giveaways and raffle prizes.

By the way, our new board members are **Rich Wilcox of Myers Tire Supply** and **Paul Arellano of Lakin Tire**. While Rich has many years of experience in our industry, Paul has a few less years, but earthmover like enthusiasm and organizational skills. Hey **Bobby Lakin**, where did you find this guy? And, does he have any twin brothers?

At the meeting, and since it was the first one since we lost our great director **Eddie Cohn**, we had a moment of silence for not only Ed, but for a one of a kind past president of the north, **Tom Hanlon**. When Ed and Tom were around, there weren't too many moments of silence, but a lot of good times. Please read Einar's column for more on Tom.

Our new member sign ups including past members that have renewed their memberships are, **Stan Lucas and Maytag Smith of Lucas Classic Tires** "Antique Tires", **Joe Findeis of The Plus Sizing Guide / "Red Book"**, **Reuben Reyes of American Tire Distributors** "A whole lot of wholesale tires", and **Ken Okita of Ken's Tire** who operates three stores in Montebello. I can say that I am really enjoying growing older, BUT NOT OLD YET! When thinking of these gentlemen it brings back memories of my Dad's tire shop in the 70s and 80s. My Dad taught me to call Lucas for antique tires, Joe was our delivery man for Parnelli Jones Wholesale, Reuben was our rep from Berlin Tire as we wholesaled a ton of BF Goodrich, and Ken was a tough competitor and always a good guy.

Well, I promised, no more pushing about paying dues, at least not for now. So, we will finish with some of the fun at the meeting, and we hope to see you at **Turbo Wholesale Tire** in



Just part of the crowd



One of your gracious hosts, Hank Feldman